

In the Specification:

Page 9, last paragraph, lines 10-¹², cancel in its entirety and
replace with a new paragraph as follows:

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-- As shown in the drawings, in the first upper blade drum 1, on which the upper blade 8 is mounted, the radial distance from the drum rotational axis to the drum periphery opposite the blade diameter 12 is noticeably smaller than the radial distance from the drum rotational axis to the drum periphery having the blade diameter 12. Therefore, the shear can be brought into a position in which a large opening or gap is formed between the drum 1 and the upper edge of the roll table along which the strip 10 is advanced. A large opening is needed, during entering and passing through of the strip head, as the strip head, for bending up of the front end, is inclined, in a manner of a ski, and with a smaller gap, the strip can be damaged in the region of the shear. --

Page 11, between the first complete paragraph (lines 3-7) and the second complete paragraph (lines 8-12), insert a new paragraph as follows:

According to an embodiment of the present invention, which is shown in Fig. 3a, the first and second blade drums 1 and 2 are fixedly connected with synchronization tooth gears 9, 11, respectively, having respective diameters roughly corresponding to the blade diameters 12, 13 of respective blades 7, 8. The synchronization gears 9, 11 engage each other backlash-free.

Obviously, as *per se* known, the first and second blade drums 1, 2 can be connected with respective drive shafts by a transmission (not shown) which would provide a different transmission ratio than the synchronization gears 9, 11.

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The upper, first blade drum 1, on which the blade 8 is mounted, is noticeably flattened at the periphery opposite the blade diameter 12. Therefore, the shear can be brought into a position in which a large opening or gap is formed between the drum 1 and the upper edge of the roll table along which the strip 10 is advanced. A large opening is needed, during entering and passing through of the strip head, as the strip head, for bending up of the front end, is inclined, in a manner of a ski, and with a smaller gap, the strip can be damaged in the region of the shear.